

Man shot by Forest Service officer was bloodied, naked

New report on Jan. 5 Oak Creek Canyon fatal shooting is released

Verde Independent

A new report released this week states that the man who was shot and killed by a U.S. Forest Service agent in Oak Creek Canyon on Jan. 5 was seen walking down Highway 89A bloodied and naked.

A Coconino County Sheriff's Office investigation report identifies the officer as U.S. Forest Service Agent Krista Kuhns. The man who died was 51-year-old Tyler Miller of Hutchinson, Kansas.

CCSO Deputy Kyle Walter was requested to assist after it was transmitted across the radio that Kuhns was at a vehicle collision on 89A near the Briar Patch Inn.

According to the report, Walter heard Kuhns give a description of a bloodied man who was walking naked southbound on Highway 89A.

"I could hear in her tone she was shaky and was speaking loudly, consistent with an intense situation," he said in the report.

He then heard over the radio that shots were fired. "During my response, dispatch was attempting to contact [Forest Service Agent] Kuhns without any result. It was also reported to DPS that a suspect was down in the roadway in which further details were not provided," Walter said in the report.

Prior to his arrival, Kuhns was no longer involved with the suspect, and other agencies had arrived on scene.

Walter arrived and located DPS Troopers D. Cameron and K. Kruee. He was then informed that the man was being transported, and that Kuhns was not seriously injured "although shaken."

It was also relayed to him that Sedona Police Department was tending to her.

See **SHOOTING**, page 7A



A white Toyota truck with Kansas license plates is removed from the scene of a deadly shooting Jan. 5, 2018, in Oak Creek Canyon. (Vyto Starinskas, Verde Independent)

What if voters don't extend the jail sales tax?



The mental health unit at the Yavapai County jail in Camp Verde. (Max Efrein/Courier)

The jail has to be funded one way or another. It's up to the citizens how they want to do that."

— Capt. Jeff Newnum, jail commander

Cities, towns could be charged for jail costs, property taxes could increase, county officials say

By **SUE TONE**
The Daily Courier

It would mean a dramatic loss of millions of dollars if voters do not approve extending the 20-year, quarter-cent sales tax that helps pay to operate the existing Yavapai County jail in the Verde Valley.

About 50 percent of the jail system operating costs, or \$8.8 million, would disappear.

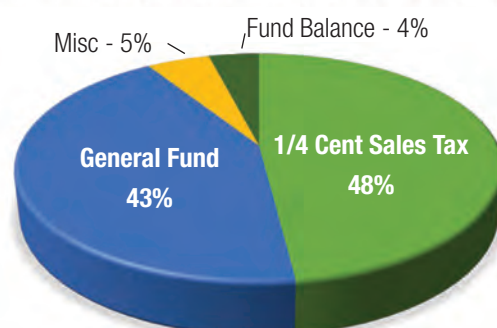
Voters will weigh in on the matter by mail-in ballot on May 15. Ballots go out in the mail April 23.

HOW WOULD THE COUNTY MAKE UP THE LOSS IN REVENUE?

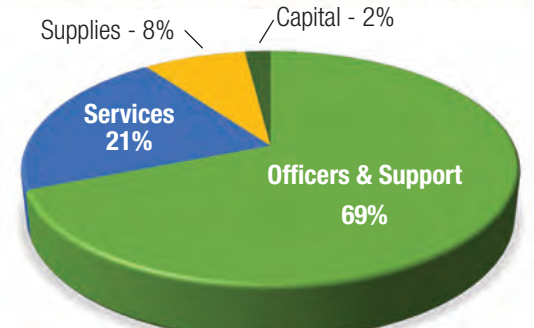
Phil Bourdon, county administrator, said there certainly aren't many places within the

See **TAX**, page 7A

WHERE DO FUNDS COME FROM?



WHERE ARE THE FUNDS GOING?



Police: Man stabbed when found in 'compromising situation'

A man was stabbed with scissors on Sunday, Feb. 11, during a fight that took place in a residence located along the 8000 block of Canyon Lane, Prescott Valley, according to a Prescott Valley Police Department news release.

Police reported Friday the suspect, 43-year-old Micah Shane Wilson, entered the home of a former girlfriend and found her with another



Wilson

See **STABBING**, page 3A

Young woman attacked in Prescott Valley, gets away by hitting attacker's groin

While walking along the 5400 block of North Ramada Drive in Prescott Valley, a 19-year-old woman was attacked at about 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 14, according to a Prescott Valley Police Department (PVPD) news release.

The woman told police she was listening to music through headphones when a man walked up to her and asked for the time. When she turned to give him the time, the man smacked the phone from her hand, grabbed her wrist and started pulling

on her. To break away, she said she hit the man in the groin, police said.

When the man fell to his knees, the woman started running back home on North Puma Court. Because she turned and ran, she told police she did not know the direction the suspect fled, nor was she sure of his age.

According to her description of the man, he is about 5-foot-10, thin and was wearing a dark blue hooded sweat shirt and blue jeans, the news release states. He also spoke with a

deep voice.

Anyone having information on this incident should contact the Prescott Valley Police Department at 928-772-9267 or 911 for emergencies.

"Everyone is encouraged to call law enforcement if they see anything suspicious," said Jerry Ferguson, spokesman for PVPD. "Suspicious activity is anything out of the ordinary or that causes one to feel uncomfortable. If you see something, say something."

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Vol. 137, No. 19
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